



OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

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FIRST LADY

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Ms. Leoma Dunn
Kentucky Library Association
Thomas More College
333 Thomas More Parkway
Crestview Hills, KY 41017

Dear Ms. Dunn:

As an education leader in the Commonwealth you understand how fundamental literacy is to achieving personal and professional success. Unfortunately, far too many Americans are illiterate or have limited reading skills which impair their ability to lead healthy, productive lives.

Although great strides have been made to improve literacy rates in the Commonwealth, there is more work to be done. Just 45% of Kentucky high school graduates scored at or above the college readiness level, compared to 55% nationwide. These are sobering statistics that affect the overall health and financial well-being of all Kentuckians.

My office is partnering with the Collaborative Center for Literacy Development, the Kentucky Education Association, the Kentucky Reading Association, the Kentucky Council on Teachers of English and Language Arts, and the Kentucky Department of Libraries to host the first annual Kentucky Literacy Week from February 28-March 4, 2011.

By bringing literacy awareness to the forefront for an entire week we hope to engage and educate individuals, schools and businesses on the need for increased literacy for all segments of Kentucky's population.

During Kentucky Literacy Week, I will be travelling across the state participating in events to promote reading and literacy in schools, libraries and adult education facilities. I ask that your organization join our efforts by participating in or hosting a literacy event in your community. Please send any event or partnership commitment declarations to www.kentuckyliteracy.org/celebrate so that we may promote and acknowledge your dedication to improving Kentucky's literacy rate.

I hope that you will join me in celebrating Kentucky Literacy Week. Should you have any questions or comments, you may contact Susan Rieber in my office at 502.564.2611 or by email susan.rieber@ky.gov.

Sincerely,

Jane Beshear
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